

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

China

DATE DISTR. 19 March 1948

SUBJECT

Political Information: Soviet
Leftist and pro-Soviet Chinese Scholars and
Writers

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Note:

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as the figures quoted in paragraph 2 seem extremely low, it is possible that they were applicable at some previous time when the rate of exchange was more favorable. The frequency of such subsidies was not stated in the original report.

1. The China Section of the Soviet Cultural Bureau (蘇聯文化工作部駐中國代表部 VOKS, the All-Union Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Nations) is attempting to win over the Chinese pro-Soviet scholars and writers. With the banning of the leftist publications, such as the Wen Hui Pao (文匯報), the Lien Ho Jih Pao (聯合日報), Hsin Min Wan Pao (新民晚報), the Chou K'an (週刊) and the Democracy Weekly (民主), many of these pro-Soviet writers lost their means of income. The Soviet authorities are financing these Chinese scholars and writers through the Sino-Soviet Cultural Association (中蘇文化協會), as they have done in the past. An emergency fund has been set up by the Soviets and is being handled by YEH I-ch'un (葉以群), who is in charge of the Sino-Soviet Cultural Association, at 217 Route Cardinal Mercier, Shanghai. YEH is also an editor of the pro-Soviet publication, Shih Yu Wen (時與文 - Modern Literature). Special subsidies from the emergency fund will be available for use in Shanghai only. The usual allotment for scholars elsewhere in China will continue at a 500% increase over the present amount.

2. The special subsidies from the emergency fund range from CNY\$400,000 to CNY\$600,000 per person. Subsidy payments in Shanghai are made by checks drawn on the Chekiang Development Bank (浙江興業銀行). An extra sum of CNY\$20,000,000, appropriated by Soviet authorities, is kept by Chinese Cultural Association for the purpose of loans to scholars.

3. These persons who receive this special subsidy are as follows:

(1) KENG Chi-chin (耿濟之). Although KENG died in Mukden during the early part of 1947, leftist writer CHENG Chen-to (鄭振鐸) collects the money and gives it to KENG's family. KENG was a former Chinese Consul in the USSR and later a Secretary of the Chinese Embassy when T. P. TSIANG (CHIANG Kai-shek) was the Chinese Ambassador to the USSR in 1936-1938. KENG was a well known translator of Russian-language literature.

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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(2) CHOW Erh-fu (周和復). Although CHOW is at present in Hongkong, the money is collected and given to CHOW's family by LIN Tan-ch'iu (林添秋), who receives a subsidy himself. CHOW was at one time a Communist cultural worker of the Shensi-Hopei-Shahar Border Area. He came to Shanghai with the Chinese Communist Delegation during the Kuomintang-Communist Peace Talks. He later joined the office of the Shih Tai Jih Pao (Epoch Daily, 時代日報) and the Shih Tai Chou Pao (Epoch Weekly, 時代週報), Soviet-supported Chinese-language publications in Shanghai. CHOW is the author of The Cross-Section of the Northeast (Tung Pei Heng Tuan Mien, 東北橫斷面).

(3) LU I (陸詒). Although LU is at present in Hongkong, the money is given to WANG P'ing (See (5) below) for LU. Recently LU joined the Chinese Communist Party. He was a former member of the China Democratic League and used to be a reporter for the Lien Ho Jih Pao in Shanghai.

(4) FENG Hsueh-feng (馮雪峯). FENG, a Chinese Communist Party member in the early days of the Party's struggle when the Chinese Communists occupied the Kiangsi Province area, assisted FANG Chih-min (方志敏) in Communist activities. At present he is unemployed in Shanghai. Besides receiving an allowance from the Soviet authorities, FENG is also given an allowance from the Author's Book Shop (作者書店) and the Chinese Cultural Association (全國文協).

(5) WANG P'ing (王平). He was formerly a reporter for the Wen Hui Pao and the chief reporter for the Kweiyang Li Pao (貴陽力報); at present he is a reporter for the Ta Kung Pao. WANG has been writing articles for the Communist magazine Wen Ch'ung (文叢), published in Hongkong.

(6) HUANG Lieh-wen (黃烈文). Although he is at present in Nanking, his money will be collected for him by WANG P'ing.

(7) LI Po-feng (李白鳳). Originally LI had no connections with the Chinese Cultural Association and the Sino-Soviet Cultural Association. He came to be associated with these cultural associations through KO Ling (柯靈), a pro-Soviet writer and an editor of the Ta Kung Pao. At present LI is unemployed and is receiving a subsidy.

(8) HU Li (胡里), a Chinese mythologist and Communist scholar. He is one of the editors of the pro-Soviet magazine Shih Yu Wen.

4. HSIAO Ch'ien (蕭乾), leftist professor at Fu Tan University and former London correspondent for the Ta Kung Pao, and T'IEH Han (田漢), pro-Soviet playwright and newspaper editor, are among those leftist writers and scholars able to support themselves without Soviet aid.

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